

Message Text

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47

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 STR-01 TRSE-00

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R 041237Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 483

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PASS USDA

FROM AMBASSADOR FOR SECRETARY BUTZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, IR

SUBJ: VISIT USA, DR H ALIZADEH, DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE

REF: TEHRAN 1844

1. DR HOSSEIN ALIZADEH, DEPUTY MINISTER, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON, DC, MARCH 26 AND 27, WITH MARCH 25 IN NEW YORK CITY. HIS MISSION, WE BELIEVE, COVERS LONG TERM GRAIN COMMITMENTS WITH US GRAIN TRADE AND AS BEST DETERMINED, HIS SHOPPING LIST IS LARGE. HE IS MEETING THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK WITH THE LARGE GRAIN EXPORTING FIRMS IN TEHRAN.

2. AS BACKGROUND INFO, ONE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE'S MAIN FUNCTIONS AND PROBABLY ITS SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FUNCTION IS TO ASSURE THAT ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF FOOD WILL BE ON HAND AT ALL TIMES. TO THAT END, DR ALIZADEH IS THE MAIN BUYER AND IMPORTER OF WHEAT, RICE, SUGAR, VEG OILS, FRESH FRUITS, AND NOW FEED GRAINS. ALSO, WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HE WILL SOON BE IMPORTING LARGE QUANTITIES OF BASIC PROCESSED FOODS.

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3. DURING THIS PAST YEAR DR ALIZADEH HAS ENLARGED HIS PORT

UNLOADING FACILITIES FROM ONE PIER TO THREE PIERS, ALL EQUIPPED WITH MODERN GRAIN EVACUATORS, AND HAS MANAGED TO MOVE VAST QUANTITIES OF FOODSTUFFS FROM PORT TO CONSUMING AREAS. GIVEN THE AVAILABLE PORT AND INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION CAPACITY, THIS MOVEMENT OF FOOD FROM SHIP TO CONSUMER WAS A HERCULEAN TASK.

4. I BELIEVE IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE FOR DR ALIZADEH TO MEET WITH SECRETARY BUTZ AND OTHER USDA OFFICIAL CONCERNING LONG TERM PROJECTS FOR GRAINS, LONG GRAIN RICE, AND VEG OIL. ALIZADEH WILL BE AVAILABLE MARCH 26 AND MORNING OF MARCH 27. I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR DR ALIZADEH PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE ON MARCH 22.
HELMS

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